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EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE ASIAN AMERICAN VOTERS COALITION

HON. ROBERT GARCIA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 6, 1986

Mr. GARCIA. Mr. Speaker, this past weekend the Asian American Voters Coalition held its national leadership banquet in Dallas.

Dr. Joy Chenan was installed as the coalition's new chairman. I am submitting a copy of Dr. Chenan's fine acceptance speech for the RECORD for my colleague's perusal.

ASIAN AMERICAN VOTERS COALITION—A COALITION IN MOTION: A CALL FOR MORE ACTION

(Actual text of acceptance speech delivered by Joy Cherian, incoming chairman of the Asian Americans Voters Coalition (AAVC), at the coalition's National Leadership Banquet on October 4, 1986, in Dallas, TX.)

We are here today to celebrate our unity—a unity which makes the Asian American Community of 5.2 million people a strong and visible political force in the mainstream of American polity. May I suggest that the secret of our success will depend on our ability to join the mainstream to become part of Main Street, USA.

My friends, I am proud of you for all the achievements you have accomplished. You make me humble. It's a great honor for me to accept all the responsibilities of the Chairman of the Asian American Voters Coalition. This is a coalition on the move—moving to bring about remarkable action for the promotion of our community intentions. The wonderful thing about this is that as we pursue our community goals, we benefit as much as the society at large is enriched by our contributions.

Let us think for a few seconds about an important point affecting our life in the coming days. How can we achieve a greater share of political power in proportion to our population and in proportion to our contribution to this country? Do you believe that contributing a few thousand dollars alone can bring up political clout and influence in American society? The answer is "no."

We have to show our political muscle to the political parties—muscle with the flesh and blood of our valuable votes and political contributions.

I take this opportunity to call on you, my leaders who have come from various parts of the country, to begin a nationwide voter registration campaign—I repeat—to begin nationwide voter registration campaign—upon your return to your own jurisdictions. We have to activate new and old citizens of Asian origin to register and vote in coming elections. Remember, in many state and national election districts, many candidates win only by a few hundred votes. Do you realize that in a tough and close presidential election, the success of a candidate can be determined by the "swing" votes of few thousand Asian Americans living in large states? Let me ask you one thing: if this is true, why can't we add to the local electoral rolls thousands and thousands of those potential Asian American votes without delay? The time has come for us to elect good candidates who will be sensitive to our needs and concerns.

What are those needs and concerns? Let me list a few of them.

We need our children to reach excellence in education without facing problems from quota systems backed by unwritten rules established in certain centers by higher learning.

We need our fair share of small business facilities and freedom to practice our professions.

We want to live peacefully in a drug-free society without becoming victims of racial violence.

We want to receive equal employment opportunities and a fair share of decision-making jobs at state and national levels.

We want absolute freedom of travel without the fear of terrorism, and we want the benefits of free international trade in goods and services.

We want the United States to strengthen democratic traditions in Asian countries.

We want to preserve our cultural identities, linguistic talents, and religious beliefs which are enriching America every day.

We need fair housing and medical facilities for our older people. Above all, we demand the equal rights and privileges that we really deserve under the Constitution and the statutes of the United States.

Are we asking for these rights and privileges because we are an Asian American minority? No, we are asking because we are Americans and are an integral part of the United States of America.

To earn our rights we have to perform our duties—duties which will uphold our personal social and civic responsibilities.

To gain politically we have to bargain with government and political leaders. To bargain we should form issue-based coalitions—coalitions with blacks and whites, Hispanics and native Americans. We should develop our alliance with Jewish people and with descendants of Western and Eastern Europeans. These coalitions and alliances should be made not only on the basis of necessity but on the recognition of common underlying ends, including a respect for diversity and the belief that a pluralistic America enriches the fabric of American life.

In concluding my remarks, I pledge that I will be your messenger for the next year in the nation's Capital to knock at the doors around the Congressional halls and at the gates of the White House.

My dear friends, thank you for your support and your blessing.

NEWTON JACKSON FORD

SPEECH OF

HON. LOUIS STOKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 3, 1986

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the gentleman from Tennessee, Mr. SUNDQUIST, for taking out this special order so that Members may offer tribute to the late Newton Jackson Ford of Memphis, father of our colleague, HAROLD FORD.

N.J. Ford was widely known and respected throughout the State of Tennessee as successful businessman, community activist, and political patriarch. Father of HAROLD FORD, our colleague here in the House of Representatives; John, a Tennessee State Senator; James, chairman of the Memphis City Council; and Emmitt, a former Tennessee State Representative, N.J. clearly instilled in his children a sense of responsibility to their community, State, and country. He leaves a legacy of public service that will not only be fulfilled by his children, but by all those who came to know him and were touched by his dedication.

Mr. Speaker, I attended N.J. Ford's funeral in Memphis on September 18, 1986. While I knew of his accomplishments in the public arena, I must say that I was more deeply touched by the outpouring of love and great respect expressed by all who knew him. N.J. Ford was a man who lent support to the weak, encouraged the talented, stood by the troubled, taught the young, inspired the dreamers, comforted the despondent and was a pillar of strength to both his family and community. He provided a fine example of fatherhood, citizenship, and community service and he shall be missed.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my condolences to his wife, Vera D. Ford, an outstanding individual in her own right, his children and the remaining members of the Ford family. They have lost a fine husband, father, grandfather and friend, but what they gained through simply knowing him can never be lost.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN EAST TIMOR

HON. TONY P. HALL

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 6, 1986

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, for several years I have been greatly concerned about the situation in East Timor, the predominantly Roman Catholic former Portuguese colony which was invaded by Indonesia almost 11 years ago.

On December 10, 1985, I introduced House Concurrent Resolution 244, which expresses the sense of Congress about developments in East Timor. To date, 135 of my House colleagues have cosponsored this resolution. This is a significant statement of congressional support for the human rights of the people of East Timor.

While there is little time remaining in this 99th Congress for action to be taken on a resolution of this kind, I intend to continue to work with my colleagues in the future to secure House action on a resolution like House Concurrent Resolution 244.

I am very much encouraged by the interest in the East Timor issue taken by the House Appropriations Committee's Subcommittee on Foreign Operations. The committee report to

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

accompany H.R. 5339, the foreign assistance appropriations bill for fiscal 1987, contains a special reference to the issue of human rights in East Timor. The following statement about East Timor can be found at pages 38 and 39 of H. Rept. 99-747:

The Committee is concerned about continuing reports of human rights violations by the Indonesian Armed Forces on East Timor. The Committee believes that the Administration should take all appropriate measures to ensure that the Government of Indonesia takes actions to bring these abuses under control, such as maintaining and expanding access to and guaranteeing freedom of movement in East Timor for humanitarian organizations so that such organizations can carry out their humanitarian operations to the fullest extent feasible; and guaranteeing full freedom of expression for an end to intimidation of the Roman Catholic Church in East Timor.

The Committee is also concerned about reports that a population control program has been imposed on East Timor by the occupying authorities, despite the severe depopulation of the island since the Indonesian invasion in 1975. It is the Committee's expectation that population programs should be entirely voluntary, that adequate education is provided the participants and that the religious values of the East Timorese are respected.

I commend Chairman DAVID OBEY of the Subcommittee on Foreign Operations for this excellent expression of concern about the plight of the people of East Timor.

Such continued interest in the situation in East Timor is urgently needed in view of the ongoing reports of human rights violations in the territory. Accounts have reached the outside world of the beating of a Roman Catholic priest by Indonesian soldiers on June 27, 1986. In addition, three East Timorese students at a Catholic university in the Indonesian capital of Jakarta were arrested in September and are being held incommunicado. Amnesty International fears that the three—Antonino Goncalves and Joao Freitas da Camara, both law students, and Francisco Fernandes Carvalho, an engineering student—could face torture. Amnesty International is asking the Indonesian Government to make public the charges against all three men, to make known their place of detention, to ensure that they have access to lawyers and friends, and to guarantee that they are humanely treated while in custody.

These incidents underscore the importance of continued attention to developments in East Timor by the outside world. Indifference by the rest of the world could foster further abuses against the people of East Timor.

I would like to share with my colleagues the testimony on East Timor before the United Nations Special Committee on Decolonization by Floyd Abrams, a constitutional lawyer speaking on behalf of Asia Watch. The text of this statement follows:

TESTIMONY OF FLOYD ABRAMS ON BEHALF OF THE ASIA WATCH COMMITTEE

Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the opportunity to testify with respect to East Timor before the Special Committee on Decolonization. My name is Floyd Abrams, and I am a New York-based attorney specializing in constitutional law relating to freedom of expression. I have practiced law in that area, taught it at Yale and Columbia law schools, and written and testified about it frequently. I have as well chaired Committees of the American Bar Association on Freedom of Expression, and Freedom of Speech and the Press. I have also served on the boards of several international human rights monitoring groups, including the Americas Watch Committee, the Lawyers Committee for Human Rights, and the Asia Watch Committee.

I testify today on behalf of Asia Watch, a committee established by the Fund for Free Expression in 1985 to monitor and promote internationally recognized human rights in Asia. Asia Watch is affiliated with the Americas Watch and Helsinki Watch Committees. Over the past year, Asia Watch has committed significant resources to researching and reporting on human rights issues in East Timor, and we believe our information and observations will be useful to the work of the Special Committee.

Since 1975, human rights monitors have received continual reports from East Timor on the killing of non-combatants, extrajudicial executions, torture and detention without trial. Armed conflict between independence forces and the Indonesian military continues in 1986, as do repeated reports of human rights abuses. It is difficult to confirm all reports received from the territory or to obtain an accurate assessment of the degree of human rights violations, as the Indonesian government maintains a policy of near complete denial of free expression, association, or contact with the outside world for East Timorese. Even the Catholic Church in East Timor is subject to such limitations. Church sources have repeatedly indicated that religious leaders in both East Timor and Indonesia have been sternly warned by Indonesian military officials against making statements on the human rights situation in the territory. As the former Acting Bishop of the Roman Catholic Church, Martinho da Costa Lopes, stated last year:

"In such an atmosphere, the average person in East Timor would be even more reluctant to speak with any outsider. Traumatized by a conflict that has seen many thousands of East Timorese killed and imprisoned since Indonesia invaded the territory in 1975, and well aware that most visits by foreigners are designed to advance Indonesian political goals, most East Timorese would just as soon protect themselves and keep quiet. There are exceptions, of course, but those who defy the rules as defined by Jakarta risk lengthy interrogation, imprisonment, or worse."

In light of these circumstances, it is important to note that independent human rights organizations have been denied permission by the Indonesian authorities to carry on-the-spot investigations of the situation in East Timor. Early last month, Asia Watch itself was denied such permission. Moreover, the Indonesian government has barred visits by persons with greatest capacity to assess conditions in East Timor: recognized experts and others who lived in the territory at great length prior to the Indonesian invasion. Such people speak and understand local languages and thus would be in a position to communicate with the inhabitants of the territory without intermediaries, assuming the proper conditions for such discussions. That visits by such people have not been allowed—more than 10 years after the Indonesian invasion of the territory—speaks eloquently and sadly of the government's desire to hide the situation in East Timor from security of the international community.

Foreign visitors who have been permitted access to the territory are generally subject to strict limitations on their movements. The Indonesian military controls most of the transportation arrangements for such visits, and the authorities vigilantly [illegible] efforts by visitors to break free from [illegible] control. For example, an East Timorese driver who drove foreign journalists to [illegible] Indonesian military cemetary last year [illegible] reportedly arrested and interrogated [illegible] this "offense".

The importance of free access to E[illegible] Timor by outsiders cannot be overestimat[illegible] A deliberate policy of allowing brief, infrequent visits by some—while totally bann[illegible] those thought to be too experienced [illegible] knowledgeable—clearly indicates that [illegible] government is not prepared to allow authentic scrutiny of its actions in East Tim[illegible] Moreover, all but a tiny handful of fore[illegible] visitors are forced to rely on interpret[illegible] provided by the Indonesian governmen[illegible] Would the Special Committee or any oth[illegible] United Nations agency willingly accept su[illegible] arrangements in any other territory with[illegible] its mandate? Without reasonable acce[illegible] there is no basis for reasonable assessmen[illegible] And there is surely no basis for assum[illegible] that Indonesian claims on human righ[illegible] conditions in East Timor are valid. Nor [illegible] visits by foreign political figures, whate[illegible] their nationality or intentions, substitu[illegible] for authentic investigations that wou[illegible] begin to reflect the views of the inhabitan[illegible] of the territory and accurately assess cond[illegible] tions. Finally, I noted that there are fe[illegible] places in the world where outsiders canno[illegible] visit as tourists. East Timor is one, and th[illegible] only adds to the understandably widesprea[illegible] preception that the situation in the terr[illegible] tory is far from the tranquil one the Indo[illegible] nesian authorities maintain it is.

Asia Watch believes that restrictions o[illegible] information and movement also make it ex[illegible] tremely difficult to recognize and respon[illegible] adequately to important humanitaria[illegible] needs in the territory. Reports we have r[illegible] ceived indicate an exceptionally high mo[illegible] tality rate among children between the age[illegible] of one and five in the Baucau region of Ea[illegible] Timor. And according to our information[illegible] this problem is not limited to the Bauca[illegible] region. We appeal both to the governmen[illegible] and to responsible international organiz[illegible] tions to facilitate proper nutritional an[illegible] medical care for people in need as quickly a[illegible] possible. We also urge the Indonesian go[illegible] ernment to grant full access for agencie[illegible] seeking to address these problems.

Apart from the absence of normal conta[illegible] with the outside world that is itself groun[illegible] for suspicion and deepest concern, there a[illegible] added reasons to fear for the state [illegible] human rights in East Timor. For the info[illegible] mation we have been able to receive su[illegible] gests such fear is justified. There are r[illegible] ports from the territory that detainees [illegible] the Los Palos district of East Timor we[illegible] tortured in 1985, and that authorities ha[illegible] continued to apply summary justice outsi[illegible] of Dili, the capital. A recent article in th[illegible] Indonesian daily, Sinar Harapan, reported:

"Since the only district court in Ea[illegible] Timor is in Dili, the [authorities] . . . ofte[illegible] execute summary justice on the spot [em[illegible] phasis added], far from Dili, because [illegible] would cost time and money to bring the pe[illegible] sons to Dili for trial."

Asia Watch is also deeply concerned abou[illegible] the health and well-being of East Timore[illegible] detainees. Over a period of several yea[illegible] human rights organizations have receiv[illegible] reports of prisoners being denied adequa[illegible] food and medical care, which in at lea[illegible] some cases, has lead to slow and painf[illegible] death from tuberculosis. The Asia Wat[illegible] appeals to the Special Committee to ur[illegible] the Indonesian government to ensure a[illegible] prorpriate medical and nutritional care f[illegible] all East Timorese detainees. Asia Wat[illegible] also notes that detainees "released" fro[illegible]

Atauro Island have not been permitted to return to their homes, but are being held in "resettlement centers" where their movements are restricted.

Asia Watch is concerned as well about the fairness of continuing "subversion trials" in East Timor. The circumstances surrounding the trials strongly suggest absence of proper procedure. By the end of 1985, some 200 Timorese suspected of involvement in the independence movement had been tried and convicted. Remarkably—regrettably we fear, not remarkably—all the defendants were reported to have pleaded guilty. None have appealed their convictions. There is strong reason to suspect that prisoners fear retribution for even minimal exercise of their legal rights. According to local press reports and the Far Eastern Economic Review, prisoners have been encouraged to proceed in this manner by a handful of government-appointed lawyers flown into East Timor to handle these cases. A recent statement by the Indonesian Chief Judge in Dili is hardly reassuring. He said: "If all trials proceeded as they do in East Timor, the job of our law enforcement officers would be very easy indeed."

In these circumstances, we believe it essential that the United Nations strongly urge the Indonesian government to allow international trial observation in East Timor.

At the same time, Asia Watch notes recent reports that the Indonesian government may make a special attempt to present Timorese participation in 1987 Indonesian national elections as a legitimate expression of Timorese desire to integrate with Indonesia. This Committee should reject any such inference from the simple act of participation in an election. Moreover, past experience in the territory gives us reason to fear that the results of any election—even a plebiscite on the future of the territory—would not represent a free and fair expression of the will of the people of East Timor. More than 10 years ago the Indonesian government convened an East Timorese "People's Assembly" that was said to have requested union with Indonesia. As the members of this Committee are aware, no international legal authority has accepted this exercise as an expression of the will of the people of East Timor. There is the strongest basis for concern about the fairness of any vote held under Indonesian government auspices in 1987, given the atmosphere of fear and coercion that still exists in East Timor and the continuing armed conflict in the territory. Thus we would urge the most careful and demanding scrutiny of any such exercise. Finally, if the Indonesian government is indeed confident that such a vote will be free and fair, we would expect it to permit free access for independent election observers in the several weeks leading up to, and including the ballot count.

Until satisfied that a free and fair expression of the popular will has taken place, the Committee should not ratify a government claim that the Timorese people favor integration. A ratification based on the pretext that the Timorese people have made their sentiments known would be a setback for the rights of those in the territory and would erode the credibility and impact of UN efforts to discourage generally the practice of annexation by conquest.

We are aware that the Indonesian government has argued that human rights reporting in East Timor has been biased. While we do not believe this is so, we are prepared to acknowledge that due to factors such as the rigid controls on access to East Timor, inspection of mail, and military control of telephone links to the territory, some reporting may have been inaccurate. There is a quick and sure antidote to this and it lies wholly in the hands of the Indonesian authorities: let the world community view the conditions in East Timor first-hand. Let the world into East Timor and then see the news and views that come out of East Timor. We urge that the Committee do all within its power to ensure improved access for impartial international observers and to continue to monitor respect for basic human rights in the territory.

SCIENCE FOR SOCIETY

HON. DON FUQUA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 6, 1986

Mr. FUQUA. Mr. Speaker, Dr. Leon Lederman, director of one of America's most prestigious national laboratories—the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory, made a presentation at the Governors' Conference on Science and Technology in Illinois that is both insightful and persuasive about the importance of basic research to our national welfare.

Because basic research is so narrowly focused and scientifically sophisticated in nature, we as lawmakers have a tendency to lose sight of its global impact and influence.

As a concluding point, Dr. Lederman brings us to an even more fundamental issue, the scientific illiteracy that is rampant across our land, and the threat that it poses to our entire democratic system.

I highly recommend Dr. Lederman's excerpted remarks for my colleagues' review and consideration. Dr. Lederman's presentation follows:

BASIC RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

(Leon M. Lederman, the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory)

My assignment is, I think, to illuminate the connection between Basic Research and Economic Development. This is not exactly a new problem. It was first illuminated about the year 1600 by Francis Bacon. Bacon was famous for articulating what we call the modern scientific method—no mean accomplishment in those distant (before Newton!) times at the very dawn of the modern era of science. But Bacon insisted on the great practical value of scientific knowlege. The insight which the scientist obtains into nature can and should, Bacon insisted, be employed in commanding nature for the service of man . . . science is for improving the condition of the human race—not to make humans perfect but to make imperfect humans comfortable. The notion of science as culture (like music, art and literature) was one aspect of science highly valued by Bacon but the other aspect was to endow human life with new inventions and riches. Most of us, Bacon said, would like to have both if we can get them. Bacon thought in fact that they are inseparable.

The wisdom and prescience of Francis Bacon is a fact of history, but it is only in very recent times that societies as a whole, through governments, recognized science as a powerful stimulus for economic change and progress and thus only recently (30–40 years) did governments begin consciously to promote science with significant funding.

In order to comment on this, I'd like to be very sure that our definitions coincide.

Let me define basic ("pure") research. It is designed to increase our understanding of the nature of the universe in which we live. It is curiousity-driven, unmotivated by thoughts of usefullness and hence almost by definition, it is not aimed at economic development. The consequences of basic research are characterized by unpredictability. Research is a venture, literally, into the unknown. Scientists take up basic research out of a sense of pure excitement, out of joy at enhancing human culture, out of awe at the heritage handed down by generations of masters and, . . . out of a need to publish and become famous.

The term basic research spans a spectrum of activities from the purest: e.g. extragalactic astronomy to the "almost applied". There is much fundamental research in chemistry, medicine, agriculture, oceanography, etc., although these subjects are obviously closer to the real world. The bridge between basic research and economic development is called Technology: i.e., the process of finding ways of doing things which do impact directly on society. As such, technology includes applied science, engineering, prototyping, etc. It is a signature of the times that these three activities, basic research, technology and economic development are intertwined together, advancing in an ever increasing spiral. The understanding of these connections is a major task for government, industry, university scholars and citizens whose lives are affected. Here we need all the help we can get because this combination has indeed changed our lives, continues to change our lives and the prognosis is for an ever increasing rate of change. It is rather easy to see why: science begets technology, technology begets economic activity; this enables science to use technology to beget more science and so on. Let me give an example: basic research in the 1940's developed the circuits that made digital computers possible. Digital computers then became essential for the design of new accelerators needed for the further advancing of particle physics. One such style of accelerator was featured last week in the Wall Street Journal as being an essential component in the manufacture of computer chips via x-ray lithography if we are to continue the process of increasing the speed of digital computers . . . and so it goes.

Let me expand this story. In the first two decades of this century, physicits began studying data from the world of the atom. As it happened, the body of preexisting knowledge—developed over three centuries by Newton, Faraday, Maxwell and so many others, turned out to be totally incapable of explaining the experiments made on atoms. It took twenty years and some of the greatest minds of Europe: Einstein, Bohr, Schrodinger, Heisenberg, Pauli, Dirac, Fermi to make the breakthrough—one of the two great intellectual revolutions of the 20th century. It is called: Quantum Theory. And, in the late 20's and 30's, the atom was understood. And when the atom was understood, the mathematics of atoms combining to form molecules was understood and we had modern chemistry. And then the curious tight organization of atoms into solids was understood—and why some conduct electricity and some don't and some sort of do—semiconductors. And we had a science of materials. And metals, semiconductors, plasmas, liquids, superconductors came under understanding and control. And new technologies arose which probably now contributes a very significant fraction to our four trillions dollar GNP.

To get from quantum theory to the new industries that are beholden to it—communications, microelectronics, biotechnology, information science, lasers, masers, cryogenics and too many others to list, more basic research needed to be done—but now the activity was closer to applications: chemistry, materials science, quantum optics, etc. and a